

REMARKS

Claims 35-51 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 35 and 38-39 are amended and claim 37 is cancelled, thereby leaving claims 36 and 40-51 unchanged.

The Abstract stands objected to because it is not limited to a range of 50 to 150 words. Applicant hereby amends the Abstract to limit it to the range of 50 to 150 words. Removal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 35 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by PCT Published Application No. WO99/26705. Claims 36, 40-42 and 44-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over several references.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter relating to claims 37-39.

Applicant has amended independent claim 35 to include the subject matter of claim 37, thereby making independent claim 35 allowable. Claims 36, 38 and 40-51 depend from independent claim 35 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Also, Applicant has amended claim 39 into independent form to include the subject matter of its base claim, claim 35 (without the subject matter of claim 37). Accordingly, amended independent claim 39 is allowable.

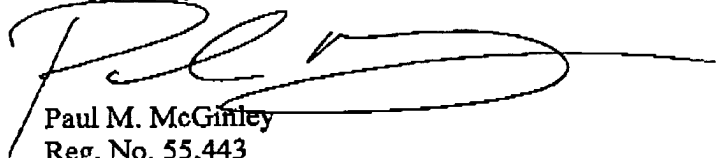
By this Amendment, Applicant has placed all of the claims into allowable form based on the indication of allowable subject matter presented by the Examiner. Accordingly, all claim rejections are overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 35-36 and 38-51 are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. McGinley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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